



It's Been A While

It's been a while since the last issue of **ukulele player** was released (mid February).

In case you have not seen my posts on various ukulele forums, I will briefly explain where I have been and what's happening:

The demands of the day job increased over the last two years until, alas, in January of 2012, my boss at work had a nervous breakdown from the pressure and had to take a bit of time on extended medical leave. I was left doing a lot of her work in addition to my own and working weekends as well as Monday through Friday.

My boss returned to work in February, but, things did not return to "normal", instead, the demands of the job only increased.

Some time during the first quarter of the year, I am not entirely sure of the dates, I wound up in the hospital with chest pains. I was under observation, but, I did not have an heart attack. They did discover, however, that my blood-pressure was all over the map.

I was put through a bunch of tests and eventually, an echo-cardiogram gave my cardiologist the answer to all the riddles. While my arteries were clear, and my heart pumped soundly, the valves did not open and close in the normal fashion. Pumping was strong, but the valves were not relaxing properly after every stroke. This was driving up the blood-pressure to dangerous levels.

This condition is, in fact, an heart defect that has been recognized thanks to the stress brought about by the day job. So, not, I take meds for the blood-pressure, but there is no cure and surgery cannot repair the condition. I just have to deal with it and try not to stress myself.

Under doctor's orders, I was to get a lot more R&R and lighten the work-load if I was to have no more tightness in the chest and no more pain or discomfort.

Now that a lot of the stress on the job has been relieved, I thought that the work load would lighten a lot, but, my boss has now resigned, leaving me with more job responsibilities

than I had before her departure. So, at this exact moment, I have finally been allowed to take some MUCH NEEDED VACATION time. So, I plan to get this issue online, and then take a few days to relax and decompress.

If you are in Del-Ray Beach, Florida at the end of October, you will find me there, sitting in the sun and playing a concert ukulele. That's a couple months away, but I am looking forward to it.

Well, I am feeling better and I have been slowly working on this issue behind the scenes. I hope you enjoy it. Another will come soon.

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Ohana Prototype SK-70EL

When I received an e-mail from Stephanie Turkal of Ohana Music asking me if I'd like to review a new Ohana prototype, I jumped at the chance.

In case you don't know Stephanie, she is more or less Louis Wu's assistant and go-to person when something needs to get done. As you would imagine, Steph has ample opportunity to play anything and everything that Ohana produces.

The SK-70EL has become affectionately known as "Steph's Uke" by Louis and company.

If you look carefully, this sample doesn't even have an Ohana logo on the headstock, that's how early in the process this instrument is. So, why would Stephanie want to send me the uke for review? Because this one is her personal favorite and she absolutely loves playing it.

This instrument is unique in that it combines a solid spruce top with eucalyptus back and sides along with the faceplate on the headstock.

The tuners are "vintage style" with pearl buttons. They do a fine job keeping the instrument in tune.

I switched out the Aquila Nylgut strings for Martin Fluorocarbon (with Steph's permission) and played this uke for several days taking notes along the way. I had to return it to Steph so that she could play it at the NAMM show. So, after several days, I shipped the uke to California so that Steph would have it in plenty of time for the show.

I could tell the uke received a lot of play-time from Steph. Even so, she had been taking very good care of it. The finish was in great shape and the fit of every seam was superb. The neck was nicely dressed and I found no issues whatsoever with the fretboard.

The eucalyptus grain was really beautiful and the sound of this uke, while being loud, was sweet and mellow. That is not a common thing. Loud ukes are often not that sweet or mellow. In this case, I believe it is a combination of the spruce top and the eucalyptus back and sides.

This uke also had maple binding that looked great in contrast to both the eucalyptus back and sides and the spruce top. Visually, the instrument is as pretty as they get in a factory-built instrument.



Playing this uke was an absolute pleasure. The intonation was excellent through the length of the neck and the action was fast from one end to the other. The feel of it in my hands was very comfortable and I liked the spring spacing. Whether strumming or finger-picking, the uke was effortless to play. I strummed it fast and hard, no problems. I gently picked it, and

again, no problems. Playing barre chords was a breeze. I played jazz, blues, tin-pan-alley, and more without once wanting to grab a different instrument.

You can see the eucalyptus grain in the picture to the right. It has a distinct look to it. I love the maple binding, too. Together, this combination is very classy and luxurious. I don't know what the street-price of this uke will be, but knowing Ohana, it will be affordable.

The uke arrived at my door nicely packed. Inside the carton was the vintage case you see in the picture below. It is a great choice for this uke. The case is rugged and has a very well-padded interior. The uke looks great in it, too.



Ohana has introduced a lot of new tone-wood combinations over the past couple of years. They brought Zebrawood ukes to market before anyone else. They have Port Orford Cedar and other North American

woods. Eucalyptus is unique another ukulele makers. Kudos to Ohana for continuing to bring us affordable, quality-built instruments. The SK-70EL should be a huge success. This is one you'll want in your collection.





Bliss Blood & Al Street

There are some people who just love what they are doing so much that they never stop working. Bliss Blood is one of those.

I don't know if any performer with her level of energy. She lives for the performance.

You might know Bliss from her band "Moonlighters" (we featured them in a previous issue and also reviewed one of their CDs).

Add another "project" to Bliss' list of performers: simply known as "Bliss Blood & Al Street" (yes, she has teamed up with Al previously-- Delta Dreambox).

Al is a seasoned guitarist and has great timing and style. He brings a lot to this duo.

Bliss vocals range from sultry dulcet tones at one end to a high-energy style that is all her own at the other. She is dynamic, whether performing some of her early original works or her latest material, or playing jazz cover tunes.

In addition to excellent vocals, Bliss plays a pretty mean ukulele. She has a custom-made uke with her monogram on the headstock, and she has also been known to play a baritone from time-to-time. She can play, she can sing, and she



has all kinds of stage presence to boot.

Together this duo will entertain you with excellent musicianship, top-quality vocals, and a sort of professionalism that few other performers in the ukulele world can match.

I wanted to feature Bliss again because this duo really impressed me. I have had the pleasure of listening to a lot of their music and it is top-flight all the way. If I were in New York City I'd make it a point to see them play live whenever I had an opportunity.

Performing cover-tunes and original material, you can count on Bliss Blood and Al Street to give you a great show. Afterward, you'll want to buy one of their CDs and continue listening on your way home.

I was eager to interview Bliss and get the latest scoop on the new duo and also other things she has been doing since we last featured her in **ukulele player**.



Q: Is "Evanescent" both the name of the duo and the CD?

A: It's now officially the name of the first cd. We changed the band name to "Bliss Blood & Al Street" to avoid confusion with the hugely popular indie rock band "Evanescence".

Q: Since you were last featured in Ukulele Player a lot has happened. You are now involved in a new project. What can you tell us about it?

A: It's a duo with guitarist Al Street. We started playing together and writing songs in July 2010 and released our first all-original CD, "Evanescent" in Feb 2011 and our second CD, "Live on the Lilac", a collection of our favorite cover songs in August 2011. We're currently writing and recording our third cd, which will be our second collection of original songs.

Q: Who is Al Street and how did you meet him?

A: We met way back in 2001

thru a mutual friend who went to music school with Al. He is an amazingly skilled and talented guitarist who has played with rock, jazz, soul, experimental bands & singer/songwriters in New York since the mid-90's.

We played a few times together back between 2001 and 2003, but really only ran into each other occasionally up until 2010, when he came to see the Moonlighters one night and demanded that we begin playing together, to which I was more than thrilled to agree. Two weeks later he played with my blues band Delta Dreambox and then we started writing and playing live frequently as a duo. In March of 2011 we wrote two songs which were used in the Brooklyn independent film "Hello Lonesome".

Q: Are you still playing with all the other musical acts? Which ones are you playing with today?

A: The Moonlighters is still performing around New York.

We have two shows this weekend! We're also working on new songs. Delta Dreambox just sort of merged with my duo with Al Street.

Q: Do you like the limitations of guitar and uke, or does it feel as though something is missing at times?

A: No, it seems really complete, the two of us compliment each other and balance each other's sound perfectly. Al says I have better rhythm than most drummers he plays with! He also likes the simplicity of the chord choices as opposed to complicated jazz arrangements, and as a soloist he can really run wild and play whatever he wants. He is probably one of the most sensitive and lyrical soloists I've ever played with, just a master of style who can always hit the right flavors, seemingly effortlessly.

Also, we are not limited stylistically, and can bounce from rock to jazz to blues to Latin to Mid-eastern to avant-garde, etc, with the greatest fluidity.

Q: Where can people go online to find out about your performances schedule?

A: My website, blissblood.com or my Facebook or Reverbnation pages for Bliss Blood and Al Street.

Q: You mentioned a new CD project, how soon will it be ready for sale?



A: Probably around December. We have about six songs recorded already, hoping to have a total of fifteen or so. We are recording whenever we get time.

Q: Do you and Al do everything yourselves or are there guest musicians in the project?

A: No, we have kept it strictly as a duo so far. But last time we talked, we were kicking around the idea of having a second guitarist. I'm thinking maybe when we have a larger body of work, we can play as a full band, but so far, we are enjoying the simplicity and freedom of playing as the duo.

Q: Do you both write material

for the act? Do you do any covers?

A: We have written about 25 original songs. They are collaborations, sometimes the music comes first, sometimes the lyric idea. We do tons of covers too, we have about eighty tunes in our book that we take to gigs to play from. We kept some of the old blues tunes I was playing with Delta Dreambox, jazz tunes from the 20's to the 60's, rock songs, music from films and operas, whatever strikes our fancy. Al also likes to play Moonlighters songs too and has performed with the Moonlighters many times as the main or additional soloist.

Q: Will you be playing any of the Uke festivals in various places?

A: We played the New York Ukefest in June, hopefully we will play at some other places too. I can't afford to fly over to Europe to play there at this point, but maybe some nice philanthropist could help us out???

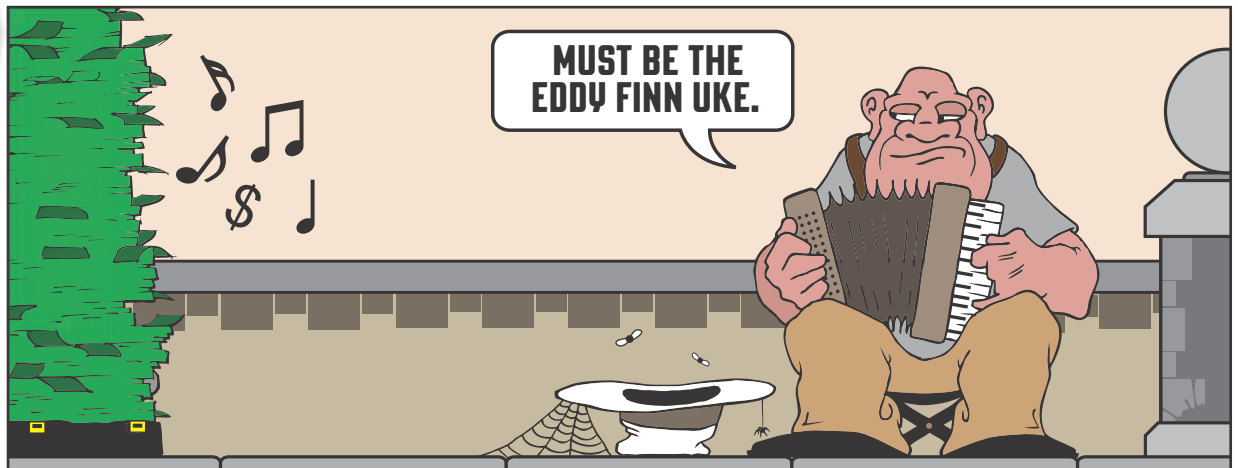
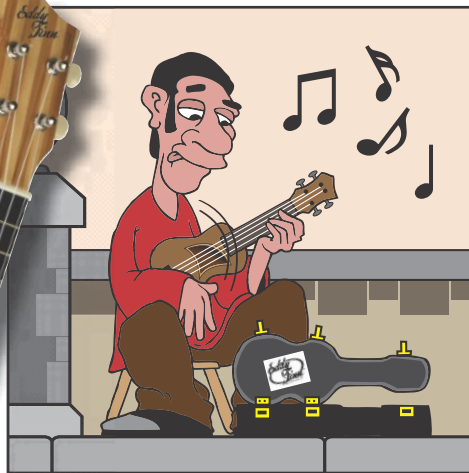
Q: Do you have a YouTube channel?

A: Semantics99 is my YouTube name. There are about forty videos of Al and me playing live there, and one video I made for our song "Palace of the Wind" from our first cd.

Q: You have so many things



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Bamboo



going on musically, have you ever thought about settling into one "group" and slowing down at all?

A: I get bored playing the same music all of the time, I am like a chameleon, trying on different musical styles, so I enjoy having more than one project. I also have several other part-time jobs to stay busy. I'd like to find an agent or a booking agent so I could concentrate more on music full-time, but the economy is so bad and competition is so intense for gigs that it's been rather challenging the last few years.

I will be attending a BMI-sponsored musical theater workshop in September to try to create a musical theater piece with a librettist, which I am very excited about. The Moonlighters did the music (and performed live) in a 2006 off-Broadway show called "Big Times", of which several songs from our "Surrender" CD live on. I am hoping to work more as a songwriter in the future as well as a performer.

Q: Future Goals... What lies ahead? I know I asked this the last time you were a featured artist, but, you have so many interesting projects. Do you have any new goals? Plans? What's Next?

A: I'm hoping next year to get back to touring, hopefully in Europe with Al Street. I'd love to see Germany again, as well as the UK, France, Italy, Spain, anywhere really! And my love of songwriting is not diminishing at



all, I look forward to more great songs and new collaborations with great musicians in the future.

Also, the Independent Shakespeare Company of Los Angeles is currently using seven songs that I wrote in their production of Shakespeare's "A Comedy of Errors" being performed every Thursday-Saturday in Griffith Park at 7:00 PM. I am really excited about my music being in such

magnificent company, and hope any readers in that area get a chance to see the show!

Thanks, Bliss Blood, for another great interview. We hope to hear a lot of great music from "Bliss Blood & Al Street", the duo.

Keep us in mind when your new CD is released.

<http://blissblood.com>



Brittni Paiva "Tell U What"

Hawaii's "Ukulele Darling" does it again. Brittni Paiva's new album, "Tell U What" is a collection of tunes that should be numbered one of the best albums of the year. The list of contributing musicians is a who's who in the music scene-- among them is Michael McDonald, Tom Scott, Ray Parker Jr., and Arturo Sandoval. Here is the line-up:

1. Tell U What
2. I Keep Forgettin'
3. Friends
4. A Taste of Honey
5. Comin' Home Baby
6. The Lochs of Dread
7. Mira
8. Alive
9. Cold Duck Time
10. Pavane
11. Boogie Woogie Bossa Nova

"Tell U What", the title track, has a great groove to it. There is a little distortion to the rhythm, while Brittni's lead work is crisp and clean. Timing is superb. I love the sax. This song had my toes tapping almost instantly.

"I Keep Forgettin'" features Michael McDonald on vocals. This tune was written by McDonald and Ed Sanford. It really says something when Brittni has a super-star like Michael on this CD.

"Friends" starts with a uke rhythm and a great percussion beat. It's a Brittni original. You hit a nerve with me on this song. This music is sweet and has a fluidity about it that just really appeals to me. It soothes the soul. I could listen to this for hours.

"A Taste of Honey" has a classic jazz feel to it, accentuated by the "flugelhorn" (tastefully played, I might add). The ukulele work on this is smooth and silky. There is a bell-like quality to the melody and notes float on air. I love it.

"Comin' Home Baby" starts with a drum and a rock beat. There is a distorted rhythm and crisp ukulele lead. This song features Ray Parkerr Jr. on guitar (another music legend).

"The Lochs of Dread" is a Reggae number (not what you'd expect from Bela Fleck and Gerry Douglass. I just love the beat. I have always liked a good Reggae beat. That might surprise a lot of my friends, but playing Reggae is thoroughly entertaining.

"Mira" This tune features Arturo Sandoval on trumpet. I love the uke work and also the Latin beat. This music moves me. It makes me want to play along.



"Alive" is another Brittni Paiva original. It has a percussive feel to it, yet it is dreamy at the same time. You don't typically have those two qualities in the same song.

"Cold Duck Time" This number is a sort of jazz-funk tune. Throw in an organ and you have a late-sixties to mid-seventies flavor to the music. This reminds me of lounge music. Nice sax. Followed by "Pavane", the music takes a total change of direction. It goes from jazz-funk to something more contemplative and moody.

"Boogie Woogie Bossa Nova" starts off slow and steady. You end this CD feeling as though you are in an old dance club. I have visions of vintage movies and gin-joints dancing in my head.

What a great collection of tunes. Brittni is superb and she is accompanied by a star-studded group of musicians. The entire collection is wonderful and the arrangements are great. As always, Brittni makes every number her own.

The guest musicians add their magic to a fantastic CD.



Gerald Ross Swing Ukulele

I always love it when I get to review anything that comes from Gerald Ross. His playing is absolutely incredible and his production quality is top-shelf all the way. Swing Ukulele is no exception.

Here is the lineup:

1. Honeysuckle Rose
2. I Don't Want to Set the World on Fire
3. Cocktails for Two
4. Isn't It Romantic
5. September in the Rain
6. Stompin' At the Savoy
7. It's Only A Paper Moon
8. What'll I Do?
9. South Seas Island Magic
10. That's A Plenty
11. I'm Gettin' Sentimental Over You
12. Pick Yourself Up
13. South of the Border
14. J' Attendrai
15. Tangerine
16. Don't Get Around Much Anymore

The CD kicks off with a upbeat rendition of "Honeysuckle Rose" and I was hooked right there. Then, the tempo slows with the second track, "I Don't Want to Set the World on Fire". What a great beginning to a wonderful collection of timeless tunes.

"Cocktails for Two" has a nice beat to it and I love Gerald's accents on this number. Once again, he exhibits perfect timing on every track. Wonderful.

"Isn't It Romantic" slows things down a bit and leads the way for "September In the Rain" both brilliantly played. I love the steel guitar in the latter. This song is dreamy, almost like Gerald's rendition of "Sleepwalk" in a previous CD.

"Stompin' At the Savoy" is always enjoyable. It doesn't get much better than this.

"It's Only A Paper Moon" is another classic number. Once again, excellent timing and accents. Slowing down with "What'll I Do?" next on the list. Ah, Irving Berlin-- superb.

"South Seas Island Magic" features Andy Iona. This is a classic from the Islands. Then, jump to the dance floor with "That's A Plenty" and kick up your heels.

Slow down a little for "I'm Gettin' Sentimental Over You" Then its back up tempo for "Pick Yourself Up", this is excellent tune placement.

"South of the Border" is another "standard" that jumps right into steel guitar. There is a nice easy tempo to this number and my toes were tapping from the start. Very nicely done.



"J'Attendrai" is a new tune for me. I have never heard it before. It turns out, I have heard it, I just didn't remember it. I have it on a collection of Django Reinhardt's recordings from France. I love Gerald's interpretation of it.

"Tangerine" is another classic. As usual, it is masterfully played. I love the Dorsey version, but actually, I think I like this one better. It is more relaxing to me.

"Don't Get Around Much Anymore" is a fine wrap-up for a great collection of swing classics.

Gerald always performs brilliantly and his timing can't be beat. He puts a lot into his production quality and you can hear it in everything he produces. This is one great collection and I'll be listening to it frequently.

I do have to say that once my wife gets her hands on this CD, it will be a while before I see it again.

If you love swing, and I most certainly do, this CD is a must for your collection.M



The Love Leighs All Your Talk of Love

On the ukulele forums, you might know her as Miss Jess. She's a larger-than-life Texas gal with a southern charm, a bit of sass, and a great set of pipes. She's part of a trio named "The Love Leighs" and their newest CD, "All Your Talk of Love" thirteen tracks of good entertainment. Twelve of those tracks are original material and one is a Tom Waits cover.

1. Bait and Switch
2. Bury Me in the Sea
3. Philadelphia
4. Fall
5. Tanqueray
6. These Shoes
7. Candy Man
8. Sparks Fly
9. Don't Say I Didn't Warn You
10. Feet Wet
11. Finally Mine
12. The Light Upstairs
13. Tango Till They're Sore

"Bait Switch" kicks off the CD with a vampy tune with a doo-wah backup vocal. Jimmy Dreams, mixes guitar into this number.

"Bury Me in the Sea" starts with clarinet. This song has a nice beat to it and sounds like something from the 1930-40 era. It's sort of a blues/jazz number with tight accents.

"Philadelphia" kicks into an upbeat guitar and uke rhythm. This song features a quick-paced fiddle playing double-notes. Guitar work is sort of a Gypsy Kings blend with some fast pickin' thrown in the mix.

"Fall" I love the guitar and honky-tonk flavored piano... Killer Vocals! I love that blend. This sounds like the old "sisters" acts from the vocal heyday and boogie-woogie bands. The piano, simply put, kicks!

"Tanqueray" kicks into gear with a twangy guitar and solid vocal ukulele mix. I love Jimmy's accents along with Jess and Raina's solid rhythm. Again, good vocal blend. This is their signature sound.

"These Shoes" is a little slower paced tune with excellent vocal blend. "Candy Man" follows and returns to a vampy vibe. There is a percussion beat that features a heavy rim-shot and solid meter. The guitar is somewhat muted and mixes well.

"Sparks Fly" has more of that night club sound. There's a nice bongo beat and airy guitar line in this number. The guitar sounds like a vintage Fender



Telecaster. The song is followed by "Don't Say I Didn't Warn You" and it sounds like something from the 1920s-30s speak-easy sort of feel to it. The violin is once again in the background.

"Feet Wet" has more of that twangy guitar and strong uke beat. I love that rhythm. "Finally Mine" follows with more great vocals and piano. This song has a great melody. I love the vocal treatment and the piano work is excellent!

"The Light Upstairs" I love this line: "Things are getting scrambled in your head." Listen carefully to the lyrics. I had a good laugh.

"Tango Till They're Sore" written by Tom Waits, is a great way to wrap up this collection of songs.

The Love Leighs continue to impress me. In fact, Miss Jess impressed me with her solo work and the "group" projects add that much more versatility and talent to the mix. There is some excellent musicianship in this CD. Jimmy is first-rate. The piano player is fantastic. The fiddler is good, too. The ladies have a great vocal blend. End to end, the CD is a winner.

Living Water Strings

If you know who Ken Middleton is, then you are well aware of his musical talent. Ken works meticulously on his musical arrangements and has a warm, personable way about him. So when he started a ukulele string venture, I immediately took notice.

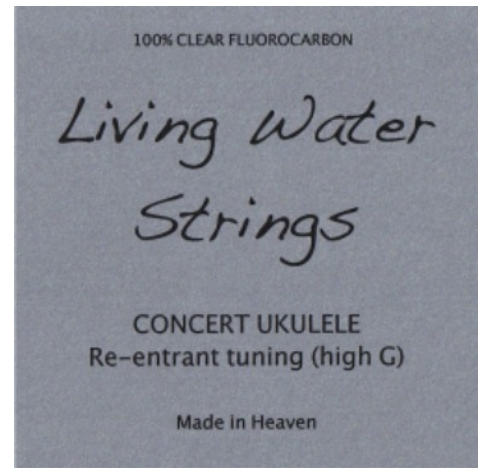
Ken was kind enough to send a couple of samples my way to test drive. In a word, wonderful!

These strings are fluorocarbon

material painstakingly chosen for the "perfect" diameter to meet the needs of the most finicky ukulele players.

I found that these strings stretch a bit more than Martins do, but they settle down quickly enough that you won't get frustrated with them. They have a clean feel and don't squeak under your fingertips.

I really love the sweet sound they produce. I put a set on two



different Ohana ukes and they really brought them to life. I love the tone, the playability, even the packaging is classy and well-done. These strings are, simply, the best I've played.



Greetings from Ohana Ukuleles. We offer hand-crafted ukuleles in a variety of models and price points. From Soprano to Baritone sized, made from quality woods including mahogany and selected koa from Hawaii. From traditional styles to vintage models, we have a unique product line for those searching for something exciting and original. Call us or check our web site for more info!

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Juke'n the Uke - Mark Kailana Nelson

Mark Kailana Nelson does it again with a great new CD titled "Juke'n the Uke". It's a collection of blues, ragtime, and "hokum" for ukulele. Here is the line-up:

1. That Lonesome Train that Took My Baby Away
2. Fishin' Blues
3. Hale's Rag
4. K.C. Moan Blues
5. Diddy Wa Diddy
6. Staggerlee
7. Wild Cow Blues
8. Yas Yas Yas
9. Okolehau Blues
10. Sister Maude Mule
11. John Henry
12. Let the Mermaids Flirt with Me
13. Palakiko Blues
14. Blues in the Bottle
15. Kona Rag

"That Lonesome Train that Took My Baby Away" jumps into an upbeat tempo with a fast pickin' and bluesy vocal. I dare you to try and play along. Playing this song must be a workout. :o)

"Fishin' Blues" If you ever took your wife or girlfriend fishing, and she out-fished you, then, this song is dedicated to you.

"Hale's Rag" is a slower-paced "rag" and I enjoyed it. I never thought about there being a laid-back rag, but this is it and I really like it.

"K.C. Moan Blues" has a nice blend of pickin' and steel work.

The vocals are at the top of Mark's range, but for this song, it works. The feel is bluesy and reminds me of a lazy afternoon.

"Diddy Wa Diddy" This song is a story. The song is credited to Blind Arthur Blake. It was recorded some time in the late 1920s. Blake was one of a group of influential blues artists that played the backwater dives and gin-joints mostly in the south. His guitar playing still influences players today.

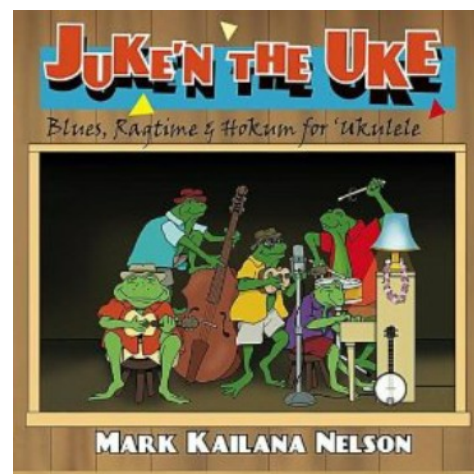
"Staggerlee" has a great picking intro. I am hearing a banjo uke in this number. This is an old ballad about Stagger Lee Shelton, a murderer. Follow that number with "Wild Cow Blues" listen to the lyrics, funny. Good Steel work.

"Yas Yas Yas" This number starts with banjo uke. It's a somewhat bawdy tune by "Blind Blake" Alphonso Higgs, a Nassau tenor banjo blues calypso performer.

"Okolehau Blues" is a song about drinkin' Hawaiian shine. Next comes "Sister Maude Mule" featuring Kevin Carr on fiddle.

"John Henry" is an instrumental. It has deep Appalachian roots.

"Let the Mermaids Flirt with Me" is a Mississippi John Hurt tune.



This song is a fun blues tune (is there such a thing?). Yep.

"Palakiko Blues" sometimes called "Hawaiian Blues", I really love this melody. I loved it from the first time I heard it.

"Blues in the Bottle" a Texas two-stepper. Kick up your heels and have a fling with this one. Then, wrap up this CD with "Kona Rag" (a Mark Kailana Nelson original). This is a great way to end the collection of songs.

Mark has a book for this CD available and I highly recommend it if you want to know more about the music in this collection and are eager to play along. The book features tabs and notation together.

Like all of Mark's books, this is a great resource that will help you learn more about reading music and playing things like pull-offs, hammers, and slides.

The CD is a great mix of old blues standards and the book is an excellent addition. I recommend them both. Then, listen to the CD and play along using the book as your guide. Have fun playin' the blues.



A.J. Leonard Favourites

If memory serves, this is the third CD from AJ Leonard I have reviewed. This collection brings us a list of popular tunes.

Here is the songlist:

1. She's A Rainbow
2. Real Love
3. Classical Gas
4. Waterloo Sunset
5. A Swingin' Safari
6. Do What You Gotta Do
7. West Side Story Medley
8. If I Were A Carpenter
9. MacArthur Park
10. Baby Elephant Gunn
11. One
12. Blackbird
13. A Whiter Shade of Pale
14. Theme from A Summer Place
15. The Inner Light
16. Stranger on the Shore

"She's A Rainbow" opens this CD. The "she" in this reminds me of a girl I once knew. I like the ukulele accents and the backup vocals, very tasteful.

"Real Love" has a neat rhythm chording. The song is contemplative and airy. I like the vocals. Again, the backup is excellent. This is good arrangement. Nicely done.

"Classical Gas" is a classic and this rendition of it kicks. I love it! I didn't know what to expect coming into it, but, well-done

AJ. I really love this! My favorite rendition of this number has always been Tommy Emmanuel and now, here is a great interpretation on ukulele!

"Waterloo Sunset" starts off sounding like the Beach Boys. This is great use of harmonies. All you need is Brian Wilson and Mike Love. Love the echos, too.

"A Swingin' Safari" is island music at its best. I feel like I am in the tropics when I listen to this track. I want to grab a uke and play along. Again, there are Beach Boys-like vocals mixed in. It's a fun romp.

"Do What You Gotta Do" --a love song of a different sort. It's a song of longing... followed by a medley of West Side Story. The pace goes from dreamy in the last number to an up-tempo number as this instrumental gets your blood pumping. I really enjoyed this arrangement.

"If I Were A Carpenter" is a country classic. Think of Johnny Cash and June Carter. AJ's rendition is slower tempo. I like it. Followed by "MacArthur Park" with a strong vocal blend. I love the accents and the strong melody built on a solid rhythm



foundation. AJ makes this one his own with this rendition.

"Baby Elephant Gunn" The "Elephant Walk" is nicely done. It's fun to play along.

"One" starts with lead licks and accents-- sweet and stylish. This is a moody song. Then, along comes "Blackbird" to pick up the pace. AJ gives you some nice picking and solid strumming technique. I love the rock-solid meter.

"A Whiter Shade of Pale" slows down again. Dreamy lyrics lead way to the "theme from A Summer Place" and a nice chord arrangement and fret work. This is good chord-melody. One again, the mood changes with "The Inner Light" and it slows down dramatically.

"Stranger of the Shore" is the perfect closure for this contemplative, dreamy, and sometimes fanciful collection of tunes.

Once again, AJ continues to release wonderful CDs filled with quality arrangements, excellent vocals, and top-quality musicianship. I Love it!



Ukulele Jim Fretting the Small Stuff

I always love it when Jim Clark, a.k.a. "Ukulele Jim" sends me a new CD to review. Jim does a great job on the production and recording. He also incorporates a sense of humor into the music, the CD cover, and any liner notes he adds.

Here is the line-up:

1. Go Along to Get Along
2. This Love Thing
3. Hearts In Harmony
4. Home
5. Mountain River Blues
6. (If I Could Only) Keep Your Love
7. You and Me on the Run
8. Song of the Sky
9. The World Still Turns
10. All I Need
11. That's What I Was
12. Crawl'n' Away
13. Love Song #47

"Go Along to Get Along" kicks off with a bluesy harmonica riff and solid beat. I love the vocal treatment. Nice, Jim. Excellent back-up vocals, too.

"This Love Thing" exhibits some excellent guitar work. Nice solid ukulele rhythm lays a good foundation. I love Jim's backup vocal tracks. This is a very nice blend and a professional mix.

"Hearts In Harmony" This song begins with a percussion beat and bass. The bass has a very

woody tone. It sounds like a Kala U-Bass. I don't know if it is, but, I like it.

"Home" features Jim's solid uke playing and a nice guitar track with tasteful licks and rhythm. The drums and bass are just right and the mix is great.

"Mountain River Blues" features a country pickin' banjo along with ukulele, guitar, bass and drums. This is an upbeat country ballad with a strong hook.

"(If I Could Only) Keep Your Love" has a vintage, scratchy record sound to the intro, then it kicks into a brisk drum-beat and strong ukulele rhythm. There some bass, drum, and uke. It's a very simple production.

"You and Me on the Run" is an upbeat romp. There is a very nice backup vocal well arranged and the music is very subtle. This mix is excellent. Levels are perfect and nothing is buried. Well-done.

"Song of the Sky" is light and airy. It features ukulele, guitar, and cello. The percussion is soft and almost buried, but it works. The bass is laying a foundation, but, takes the back-seat in this mix. I really like this engineering.



"The World Still Turns" uses uke, piano, bass, and hammer dulcimer. This makes for an interesting instrumental blend. The composition worlds. The vocal balance is good, too.

"All I Need" is the work of Ukulele Jim and Greg Youngman-- the one-man-band. This guy plays a boat-load of instruments here. The song is contemplative and moody and the mix is perfect.

"That's What I Was" features three-part harmonies. This song has a nice bass and snare-beat that will get your feet moving.

"Crawl'n' Away" slows down the tempo. I really like the lyrics on this song. It leads the way for "Love Song #47" (are you sure it's number forty-seven?). A fun ending to a very nice album.

Jim has a good voice and I love his vocal dub work. His music sticks to the basics of good songwriting, a nice melody around meaningful lyrics. Being a project put together via online collaborations, I have to say that I am impressed with the results. Jim, congratulations. I give it a big thumbs-up.



Tyrone and Lesley - Ukulele Heart



Tyrone and Lesley hail from Down Under, Australia. These two new-comers to the ukulele scene have one of the most interesting and entertaining introductory videos I have ever scene. So, I am sure that they put on a lively and unique show. Here is the song list of their debut CD:

1. Bottoms
2. Ukulele Heart
3. Known Knowns
4. Being Small
5. Moon Song
6. Excuse Me
7. Cutlery
8. Where's That Bear
9. Australia is A Dangerous Place
10. Boy & Girl & cat & Dog
11. Umami
12. Trousers
13. Lonely
14. Sidekick
15. Chicken Song
16. My Dog Has Fleas

"Bottoms" begs the question: "Where would we be without bottoms? The musicianship is actually quite good.

"Ukulele Heart" is the title track. It has a nice meter to it. The vocals are a little buried in the mix, but the melody is enjoyable and the lyrics are cute.

"Known Knowns" This song has a nice beat to it. The meter is very precise and timing is excellent. What follows is "Being Small" and

the tempo slows a bit. This melody is pretty and the instrumentation is very nice. I like the way the vocal mix is handled in this number. Sweet.

"Moon Song" has a somewhat haunting melody. It just ends too soon. "Excuse Me" jumps right in and brings up the tempo. This is a sort of swing tunem, lively and energetic.

"Cutlery" An Ode to tableware. So, what was the inspiration for this song?

"Where's That Bear" This song sounds like it belongs in a Looney Tunes soundtrack. I love the beat and the tip-toe kind of playing. Timing is difficult in this sort of number, but this is flawless execution.

"Australia is A Dangerous Place" sounds like it came from a cartoon, too. This would make a great children's song.

"Boy & Girl & Cat & Dog" is a whole 44 seconds long. It is followed by "Umami". It has a slow start and jumps into a fast strumming pattern that reminds me of the old ukulele heyday tunes.

"Trousers" is another short number-- 40 seconds.

"Lonely" has a nice little picking introduction. The vocals are a bit low, but the melody is really nice and I love the ukulele accents on this song.

"Sidekick" This song has a sort of "Charleston" beat to it. I picture flappers dancing on this number. There is a clever change-up in the middle of this song and then the tempo jumps back into the dance beat it had in the start. Enter Kazoo.

"Chicken Song" must have really taxed their ability to write lyrics.

"My Dog Has Fleas" ends this CD. I love the orchestration. Very creative.

So, my impression is that as musicians, Tyrone and Lesley are first-rate. Their timing is excellent. They must enjoy Monte Python and have a love for slapstick. They call themselves a "novelty act", but, there is some real honest talent here.

I'd love to see what they are capable of doing should they go the route of putting a more tradition CD together. If you want humor, it's fun and funny.



He Has Autism

Eric "Baron" Behrenfeld submitted this two-song CD to me quite some time ago and I have to apologize that it was buried under a bunch of papers on a desk and I did not see it. It was when I was ill and the mail was building up around the home. So, sorry Eric. But, here it is.

These are songs from the heart. Eric has first-hand experience dealing with a child with autism. Through the trials and tribulations, happy times and heartache, he has found an outlet through music. The songs on this disc are available for download and if you have never gone through this yourself, it will give you some understanding of what a parent feels, from fear, love, and a long list of emotions.

Visit this URL:
www.songsaboutautism.com

Give a listen. I am sure that these songs will touch you. They pull at your heartstrings. Eric finds the words perhaps some of you have wanted.



Got Uke?



You can find Kala Ukuleles at
www.ukeladymusic.com





Evolution of Ukulele

From Portugal to Hawaii to the World



http://www.anuenue-uke.com/html_version/#frame_index



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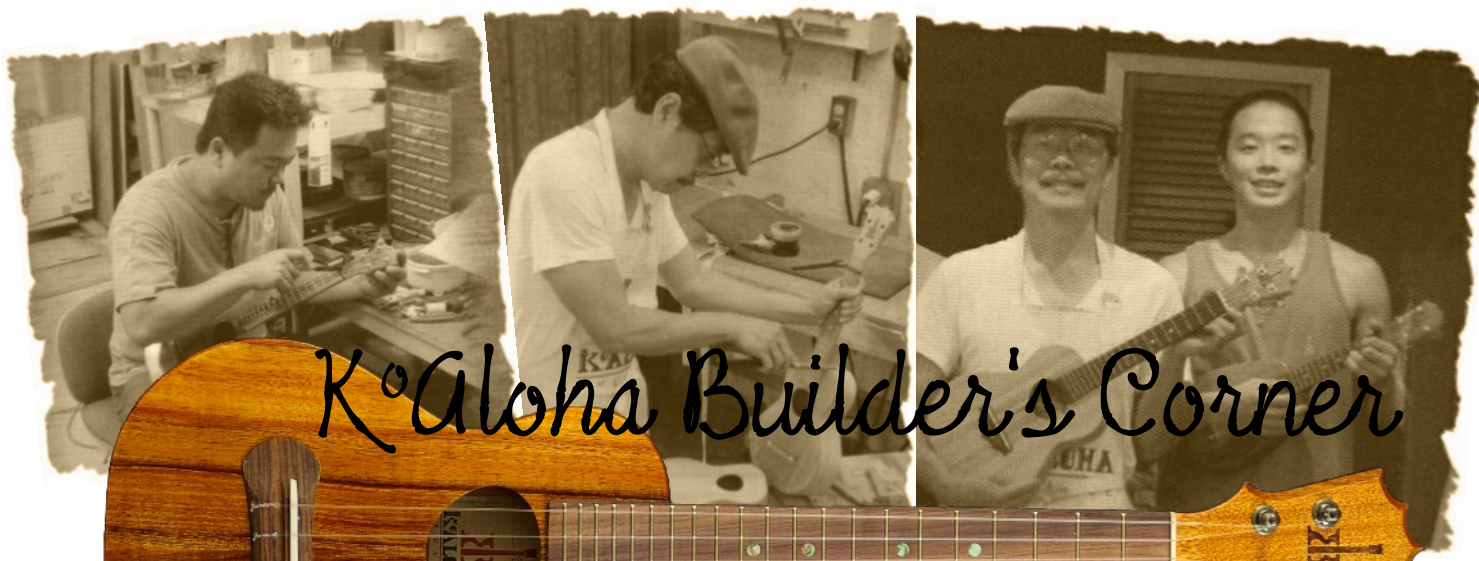


<http://www.ukulelecosmos.com> - excitement, music, lively discussion, and a whole lot more...



<http://mainlandukes.com/>

A Part of the American Landscape



Ko'Aloha Builder's Corner

Q&A

Send your questions via email:
Uke-maker@tricornpublications.com

Have a question about ukulele construction? tone-woods? the difference between curly koa and straight grain? ukulele setup? or the care and feeding of your uke...

Even if your ukulele is not a Ko'Aloha, feel free to ask.

The Experts at Ko'Aloha Ukulele will be happy to answer your questions in coming issues.

Gibson Admits to Wrong Doing

In the news recently, Gibson Guitar Company admitted to wrong doing when it came to the importation of exotic woods for use in guitar making.

It is unfortunate that trade barriers exist for the importation of certain species of "tone woods", but, there have been limits to imports and out-right bans on certain "endangered species" for many years.

In Gibson's case, this may have been more than paperwork filing issues. There may have been some cover-up and other wrong doing.

In the musical instrument

business, Martin has been and remains committed to legally harvested and imported tone woods. If you tour their factories, you will find woods labeled by origin, species, and having all reference numbers just to guarantee compliance with import laws. It isn't cheap, and it's not easy, but Martin has been in compliance for years.

Another alternative is what Ohana, Kala, and other brands are doing. They manufacture offshore and that means the harvest and treatment of tone woods is out of their hands. In short, it means that Ohana, Kala, and other importers of built ukuleles cannot be held

liable for what happens in China or anywhere else.

Interestingly, Martin has been a pioneer in the use of domestic timber for the manufacture of their guitars.

In recent times, Ohana has followed suit with some ukuleles that utilize domestic tone woods. That is exciting to me.

Just how much Hawaiian Koa, for example, is available to harvest and how long will it be before instrument builders have to choose alternatives, one can theorize and make an educated guess, but it is nice to know that ukulele builders are taking steps to ensure that they responsibly harvest and plan for future generations.





Ukulele Club Listings...

If you would like to list your club here, submit contact information at this website:

http://www.tricornpublications.com/uke_player.htm
or e-mail me at this address:
mickey@tricornpublications.com
We will add you to our list.

USA

Arizona

Scottsdale Strummers, Scottsdale AZ, Contact Pat McInnis
weekly daytime meeting, monthly evening meeting
email: pat@azukulele.com
website: azukulele.com

Tucson Ukesters

Tucson, AZ
Meet weekly - usually on Monday afternoon
Contact: Kristin Keller
twoazin@comcast.net

The Tucson Ukesters - performance group

Michael Crownhart - Group leader
Contact: AzRedShoe@juno.com

Phoenix Ukulele Meetup

<http://www.meetup.com/The-Phoenix-Ukulele-Meetup-Group/>
4th Thursday at Dolce Video Coffee Bar
1025 E Camelback Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85014
Contact: Carolyn Sechler carolyn@azcpa.com

Phoenix Ukulele Meetup

Meeting weekly on Tuesday Nights at Cabin Coffee
Other workshops and meetings as published.
Web site: <http://www.meetup.com/The-Phoenix-Ukulele-Meetup-Group/>
Email: Tom@Kanikapila.us

California

Fresno Area



ukulele player is designed and produced using Serif Software's PagePlus X5 --professional software at budget prices.



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You can check out the complete line of Serif Software at this URL:

<http://www.serif.com/>

Ukulele Clubs continued

www.valleyukes.blogspot.com

Nuked Ukes

We are in Auburn California. Welcoming players from all levels.

contact: Loyce Smallwood

loy@foothill.net

www.kahi.com/loyce/sblog

Ukulele Society of America

Contact: Richard Douglas

(760) 458-6656

300 Carlsbad Village Dr.

Carlsbad CA, 92008

http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/ukulele_society_of_america

Ukulele Club of Santa Cruz

www.ukuleleclub.com

One of the Largest Ukulele clubs in America! Usually meets every third thursday at Bocci's celler in Santa Cruz, but check the website, cause it sometimes changes. Or email Andy@cruzio.com for club information.

Ukulele University

New uke club in the Sacramento, CA. Area. Meet 1st Thursday eve monthly

email: stuherreid@yahoo.com

website: www.ukeuniversity.com

San Jose Ukulele Club

Every second and fourth Tuesday in the month.

Beginner session at 6:30 p.m. Regular meeting from 7 to 9 p.m

We meet at the Fresh Choice Restaurant in the Almaden Plaza, at the intersection of Almaden Expressway and Blossom Hill Road, just off Hwy 85.

e-mail: sanjoseukeclub@gmail.com

San Diego Ukulele Meetup Group

<http://www.meetup.com/San-Diego-Ukulele-Meetup-Group/>

We meet on the first Tuesday of the month at Lion Coffee downtown @ 6:30pm.

"Ukulele Jam" hosted by Shirley Orlando.

Meets Thursday evenings at 6:30. All levels welcome. Music is contemporary, from tin pan alley to the beach boys, etc.

16852 Gothard St Huntington Beach CA 92647.

shirthings@aol.com or encantada@cox.net

Petalukes, Petaluma, CA

Meet every Thursday night, other times too. All levels welcome, music provided

Contact: petaluke@comcast.net

website: <http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/Petaluke/>

High Desert Ukulele Club, Antelope Valley, Ca

highdesertukuleleclub.com or email highdesertukuleleclub@gmail.com

Canogahana Players

every second and fourth Sunday, Noon to 2PM

Ukulele Clubs continued

Guitar Merchant 7503 Topanga Canyon Blvd, Canoga Park, CA

The Pluckin' Strummers - A Los Angeles Ukulele Club

<http://pluckinstrummers.wordpress.com/>

Meet: 2nd & 4th Saturdays of the month. 10:00–Noon (unless otherwise stated).

Christ Church Griffith Park, Atwater Village 3852 Edenhurst, Los Angeles, CA

Colorado

The **Denver Uke Community** has been bringing Ukemaniacs together since 2005. We meet each month on the third Saturday at Swallow Hill Music Association at 10:30am. All skill levels from beginner to "Wow that person ROCKS the Ukulele", we also play a wide range of music, from country, tin pan alley, Hawaiian.

<http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/UkuleleCommunityDenver/>

fortUKE @ Everyday Joe's

144 South Mason, Fort Collins, Colorado

We meet the first Saturday of each month at Everyday Joe's Coffee House, 9:30 AM till about noon. Group strum, all abilities welcome.

Connecticut

The KookeeUkies Ukulele Club of Southern Connecticut

Visit our website on meetup.com for meetup dates and times.

<http://www.meetup.com/The-Ukulele-Club-of-Southern-Connecticut-The-KookeeUkies/>

Ukulele Club and The Four Strings Ukulele Band of Southern Connecticut,

<http://www.orgsites.com/ct/uke-club/index.html>

petejhnsn@sbcglobal.net

Florida

Tampa Bay Ukulele Society

www.meetup.com/tampabayukes

Check out the website for scheduled "meetups". This group is very active.

Florida Ukulele Network

www.FloridaUkuleleNetwork.org

F.U.N. has meet-up groups in Broward, Palm Beach, and the Space Coast

Georgia

Da Kine Ukers, we meet every Thursday nights from 6:30 - 8:30

pm. Location: American Legion Post 251, 2760 Duluth Hwy. (120), Duluth, GA.

Contact: Wally Choi, 517 Paden Drive, Lawrenceville, GA 30044

Email: wchoialoha@msn.com

Ukulele Clubs continued

Hawaii

UkuleleClubofKona.com

meets Wednesday evenings from 6 to 8 pm

Keauhou Shopping Center, 7 miles south of Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i

Illinois

CHUG - CHicago Ukulele Group

We have our monthly Chicago Uke Jam the 3rd Saturday of every month.

Please contact Henry at Henriness@gmail.com

Oak Park Ukulele Meetup Group aka The Harrison Street Ukulele Players. Meets every Thursday except major holidays.

Every 3rd Thursday, 6pm-8pm @ Wonderwall Music Shoppe & Emporium

325 Harrison St, Oak Park IL 60304

All other Thursdays, 7pm-9pm @ Eastgate Cafe, 102 Harrison Street

Oak Park IL 60304

Website: www.ukulele.meetup.com/89 contact: hsup2008@gmail.com

Kansas (and Western Missouri)

Kansas City Ukesters

<http://www.kcuke.com>

Kentucky

Kentucky Ukes

meeting the fourth Sunday of every month

KentuckianaUkes@yahoo.com

Michigan

Ukulele Jam, 4th Tuesday night of the Month Oz's

Music Ann Arbor MI. contact: jerryefmail@yahoo.com

Lansing Area Ukulele Group

Meets once per month: Sir Pizza 201 East Grand River Lansing, MI 48906

Yahoo Group: <http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/lansingukesgroup>

Facebook: tinyurl.com/lansingukes

Email (Ben Hassenger): lansingukes@gmail.com

Minnesota

Two Harbors Ukulele Group (THUG), Two Harbors MN.

Email: al@agatebaymusic.com

StrumMn ukulele players

<http://strummn.shutterfly.com/>

Ukulele Clubs continued

Nebraska Ukulele Strummers

4stringsofswing@gmail.com

Nevada

The Ukulele Club of Las Vegas

www.meetup.com/ukulele-club-of-las-vegas

"Uke Nights in Reno"

Email: Rich@PlayUke.net

Local Uke gathering in Reno, NV

New Mexico

The High Desert Sand Fleas

Meet the 2nd & 4th Thursday of each month at the

Albuquerque Press Club [6pm - 9pm]

2101 Highland Park Circle, Albuquerque, New Mexico - USA

contact: Stephen Hunt via email: hdsfgcea@gmail.com.

<http://sites.google.com/site/hdsfgcea/>

New York

Ukulele Club of Potsdam (New York)

meet-up every other Friday at 5PM at Tim's Comic & Game, 6 Main Street

contact: Tim Connolly tim@discoverpotsdam.com call: (315) 268-1598.

Loaner ukes available. Bring your uke and leave your cares at home!

The Lower Westchester Ukulele Club, Westchester County, New York

<http://lowerwestchesterukuleleclub.webstarts.com/>

E-mail: lowerwestchesterukuleleclub@hotmail.com

Long Island Ukulele Strummers Club

Plainview, New York

Website: <http://sites.google.com/site/islandukeclub>

North Carolina

Charlotte Area Ukulele Jam

contact: ukulelerobby@gmail.com

First Saturday of each month. 3 - 5 PM At "Aloha Snow"

www.alohasnow.com

Ohio

COUP (Central Ohio Ukulele Peeps)

coup@tricornpublications.com

Ukulele Clubs continued

Jumping Flea Night Monthly uke strum-along

Cleveland Heights, Ohio. LAST Tuesdays 7:30 - 8:30 at Coventry Village Library.
Free & open to everyone!! Contact: melissaogrady@ymail.com

Oklahoma

Tulsa Ukulele Club

Meeting the needs of ukulele players in the greater Tulsa area
tulsaukes.blogspot.com
contact via e-mail: rskjrmail@gmail.com

Oregon

Portland Ukulele Association

<http://www.pdxuke.org>
pua@teleport.com
Making music together since 2001!

Pennsylvania

Allegheny Ukulele Kollektive (Look for us on Facebook!) New uke group taking shape. Hoping for twice monthly jams and sing-alongs for all levels.
Hollidaysburg/Altoona, Pennsylvania, Contact: Steve kss15@psu.edu

South Carolina

Lowcountry Strummers Ukulele Club

Charleston, SC metro area. We meet twice a month. One beginner class and open Jam each month. All are Welcome.
www.lowcountrystrummers.com **e-mail** lowcountrystrummers@gmail.com

Texas

Robert S. Sparkman
sparky.judy@tx.rr.com

Lone Star Ukulele Club (in North Dallas)

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/lonestarukuleles>

The Dallas Ukulele Headquarters

Go to www.meetup.com and search The Dallas Ukulele Headquarters to join the group. Lots of fun events and jams!

CHUG - Coffee House Ukulele Gang

Fort Worth, Texas

This wild west ukulele gang meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month.

Ukulele Clubs continued

Contact Steve for more info. (steve_w_williams@yahoo.com)

Vermont

Vermont Ukulele Society

email: vyhnak@sover.net

Meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month.

Virginia

Virginia Ukulele Club - Vienna, Virginia

Meeting twice a month. All ages and levels of ability welcome.

Contact: Ben Farrington - ukeclub@yahoo.com

Hawai'i State Society

Falls Church, VA.

Contact: Carol Takafuji - itaka2u@yahoo.com

Washington

Seattle Ukulele Players Association (SUPA)

www.seattleukulele.org/

Cowlitz Ukulele Association

Longview, WA. 98626

CowUke@yahoo.com

Wisconsin

CheezLand Uke Band - JoeSexton@aol.com

Website: CheezLandUkeBand.com

Tuesday night at Leithold Music in downtown La Crosse, WI.

Beginners, Mid-Level, Advanced Players

Canada

STRING ALONG UKULELE CLUB

DUNDAS ONTARIO CANADA

www.stringalongukulele.ca

Nanaimo Ukulele Circle - Nanaimo, BC, Canada

www.ukecircle.com e-mail: ukecircle@gmail.com

UK

England

Ukulele Clubs continued

Ukulele Society of Great Britain

43 Finstock Road, London W10 6LU

Tel: 020 8960 0459

Email: m@gicman.com

Cambridge Ukulele Co-operative [Cuckoo]

Meet alternate Sundays 2pm-6pm

The Portland Arms Cambridge CB4 3BAIf

If you're cuckoo about ukes come and join us.

<http://www.myspace.com/cambridgeukuleleclub>

Ukulele Philharmonic Orchestra of Sudbury

Tuesdays evenings from 7.00pm

The Institute, Station Road, Sudbury Suffolk CO10 2SP

Beginners Welcome

Uke Wednesday Jam

Every Wednesday 7 till closing Downstairs @ The Royal George

Charing Cross Road, London, WC2H 0EA, U.K.

contact: Quinc email: qnc@qnctv.com

<http://ukeweds.intodit.com>

Tune Army Ukulele Club

The Bay Horse, Front Street, Whickham, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE16 4EF

Meeting first Monday of the month 7:30 - 9:30

<http://tunearmy.blogspot.com/>

UkeGlos Ukulele Club

Meets Every Mondays every month, 8.00pm

The Exmouth Arms, Bath Rd

Cheltenham, GL53 7LX

Wooden & banjo ukes welcome. All levels of playing ability & song styles. For

full details visit: www.ukeglos.co.uk

<http://www.ukeglos.co.uk>

Ukulele Sundays host:Tim Smithies

email: tim@timsmithies.com

I host a Ukulele Jam session on Sunday evenings in Sheffield UK called 'Ukulele

Sundays' All welcome - 8.30pm onwards. Riverside Cafe Bar.

<http://www.ukulelesundays.co.uk>.

"Brighton ukulele Sundays"

Meet first Sunday of the month at the Brunswick Pub in Hove East Sussex UK.

Visit Facebook Brighton Ukulele Sundays for more details.

Leicester Ukulele Club

All welcome, First Monday of the month,

Upstairs at Babalas Bar, Queens Road, Leicester

Contact: dave.davies1@virgin.net or mark@littleredtruck.co.uk

Herts of Uke Ukulele Club

Every 4th Sunday - 6.30pm onwards.

Meet at The Doctors Tonic, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, AL8 6PR

All Players Welcome

Websites: <http://sites.google.com/site/hertsouke/>

email: hertsouke@gmail.com

Luton, UK

We meet once a fortnight at Greenbank Music Village,

Greenbank Hal, Cobden Street, Luton, LU2 0NG

Anyone interested can give us a call:

Keith 07745 613931

Scott 07976 895067

Gerry 07785 117029

<http://sites.google.com/site/ukuleleworkshopinluton/>

South Hampton Uke Jam - meets every two weeks... year 'round

www.southamptonukulelejam.co.uk

Stockton to Darlington Ukulele Express

meets 2nd and last thursday of the month. contact simonb250@hotmail.com

ukuleleexpress.blogspot.com

Sedgley Strummers - See the website for details

www.ukulelemad.com

'Colwyn Bay Ukulele Group

We usually on Saturday morning. All players welcome.

email sbach1@live.co.uk

Ireland

UKULELE IRELAND

ukulele@ireland.com

Irish ukulele club meets on the second saturday of

each month. Players from all over Ireland. Ukeplayers of all levels welcome. If you are a visiting uke player please feel free to come along. The meetups are held at 2, eden park, Dunlaoire, Co. Dublin.

Ukuholics

truepants@eircom.net

The Ukuholics are based in the Irish Midlands and meet once a month.

Players of any or no ability will fit in nicely!

Visit www.ukuholics.webs.com for more info

Scotland

Monday Ukearist

Edinburgh's very own ukulele gathering. We gather once a fortnight on Mondays from 7 to 10(pm!) at Mackenzie School of English near the foot of Leith Walk

6 John's Place,

EH6 7EP

Contact: John Hobson, +44 (0)7940 513969, jhobson@gmail.com

<http://ukearist.co.uk>

South Wales

Ukulele Nights

Cardiff's Ukulele Jam Session and Cabaret

Meet Mondays 8 p.m. at assorted venues.

Visit www.ukenights.org.uk for full listings and updates.

Contact: Nick Canham witt29-ukenights1@yahoo.co.uk 07971 - 719626

The Swansea Ukulele Club

Meeting Tuesday evenings from the 7th February 2012

email: r.gent@ntlworld.com

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/SwanseaUkuleleClub/>

France

L'UkeDunum - Ukulele Club of Lyon

Website: <http://lukedunum.wordpress.com>

email=lukedunum@gmail.com

Germany

Ukulele Club of Germany

info@ukulelencub.de

www.ukulelencub.de (home page)

www.ukulelenboard.de (message board)

Deutscher Ukulelencub

c/o Raimund Sper

Korneliusstrasse 1

D-47441 Moers

tel. +49/2841-394837

fax + 49/2841-394836

www.ukulelencub.de

Holland

Ukulele Jamboree in Rotterdam - hosted by 'The Uke Box'

The night is comprised of a workshop, performances & open mic.

To Join the Mailing List send an e-mail to: guaranteed2swoon@gmail.com

To read more about this and our other ukulele projects go to:

<http://www.ukulele-interventie.blogspot.com> (Dutch)

Visit my personal blog spot and click on 'Ukulele' under "Contents" (English)

<http://www.shelleyrickey.blogspot.com>

'Uke & D'Uke'

<http://ukeandduke.blogspot.com/> (in Dutch)

Note: Shelley has an Etsy store where you can find ukulele related items for sale, check it out: <http://www.thejumpingfleamarket.etsy.com>

France

Ukulele Club of Paris

Thursday starting 7:30 PM

Meetings are announced on the website King David Ukulele Station at this URL:

<http://www.ukulele.fr>

C.O.U.L.E.

Club Olympique de Ukulélé de Lille et des Environs

<http://www.COULE.fr>

"Stay cool, come and play with the C.O.U.L.E."

VSAlele

Association des Ukuleliste de Valbonne Sophia Antipolis (Alpes Maritimes)

Visit www.vsalele.org for more info

"Ukulele Social Club de Picardie"

Amiens (France)

See more here : <http://www.ukulpic.fr/>

Clermont-Ferrand call "Le BOUC" (in french, Bougnat Original Ukulele Club).

Our website is : <http://le-bouc.blogspot.com/>

Spain

Club del Ukelele de Madrid (SPAIN)

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=131466486122>

"Para todos los aficionados al ukelele que viven en Madrid"

"For all the ukelele fans living at Madrid"

Now preparing their first festival and meeting very soon - stay tuned!

Australia

Sunnybank Ukulele Players

Meets every 3rd wed of each month sunnybank, Brisbane , Australia

Contact for more information- info@trevorgollagher.com



USA

The San Diego Ukulele Festival

13-14 October, 2012

<http://www.sandiegoukefestival.com/>

Milwaukee Ukulele Festival

October 20th, 2012 9am to 10pm

The Sunset Playhouse in Elm Grove, WI for more info visit:

<http://sunsetplayhouse.com/tickets/index.php> Tickets: \$80 dollars / full day pass.

Blackwater Ukulele Festival

Saturday October 13, 2012 10:00am - 5:00pm

Vendors, Boat Jams, Workshops, Free Concert, Open mic

Cypress Gardens near Charleston, South Carolina

festival.charlestonhotshots.com

Belgium

Ukulele Zaza (Belgium) www.myspace.com/ukulelezaza

France

Marie Darling (France) www.myspace.com/mariedarling

Patti Plinko and her Boy (UK)

www.myspace.com/pattiplinkoandherboy

Les Ukulélé Boyz (France) www.myspace.com/ukuleleboys47



Essential Links from the World-Wide-Web

UkeTalk - <http://uketalk.com/links.html>

"Ukulele Spoken Here" is one phrase that comes to mind. If you want to talk ukulele or catch all the news that is news, this is a can't miss website.

Brudda Bu's Ukulele Heaven

<http://www.geocities.com/~ukulele/index.html>

If you'd like to learn the history of some of ukulele's greatest players, this site is absolutely essential.

Ukulelia - <http://www.ukulelia.com/>

The World's Greatest Ukulele WebLog" Need I say more?

Ukulele Cosmos - <http://www.ukulelecosmos.com>

One of the hottest ukulele forums on the web. Don't Miss It!

Ukulele Underground

<http://www.ukuleleunderground.com/forum/index.php>

Another really popular ukulele forum, lots of Hawaiian players and folks from the West Coast of the Mainland USA.

Flea Market Music - <http://www.fleamarketmusic.com/default.asp>

This is Jumpin' Jim Beloff's website. He has lots of great resources and an excellent forum as well. You can buy Flukes and Fleas there, too. Jim also has lots of songbooks, DVDs, and other great stuff there.

UkeLadyMusic - <http://www.ukeladymusic.com/>

Auntie Noel runs a really great shop. Her passion is ukulele and it shows.

Contact Us: phone 214-924-0408

or email noel.tardy@yahoo.com

Kiwi Ukulele

New Zealand's Ukulele Companion

<http://www.kiwiukulele.co.nz/>

Bounty Music

<http://www.ukes.com/>

Bounty Music Maui

111 Hana Hwy. #105

Kahului, Maui, HI 96732

open 9 :00 to 6:00 Monday thru Saturday * Sunday 10:00 to 4:00

Phone: (808) 871-1141

Fax: (808) 871-1138

Online Resources

<http://www.tikiking.com>

tikiking@tikiking.com

comment=Website listing:

Home of Tiki King Ukuleles since 1999. lots of neat Ukulele stuff, such as the webs largest Ukulele makers database, Custom Hand Built Tiki King Ukuleles, and ukulele stuff to see and buy. We have Flukes and Fleas, Ukulele Art Gallery, Ukulele classes, chord charts, CD's and more!

Bonsai Garden Orchestra

email: info@bgo.nu

Webside: <http://www.bgo.nu>

MySpace: <http://www.myspace.com/bonsaigardenorchestra>

World Music Festival "glattundverkehrt" on july 22nd .

www.glattundverkehrt.at

UkePics

Assorted Ukulele Picture Exposé

<http://www.ukepics.com/>

How High The Moon Publishing

Publisher of the Jam Book "Play Well with Other"

9826 James A. Reed Rd. Kansas City, MO 64134

816-965-0183 or 816-728-6936

<http://www.moonbookstore.com>

Uke Farm - <http://www.ukefarm.com/home.HTML>

Uke Farm Radio - <http://www.live365.com/stations/ukefarm>

GoChords

<http://www.gochords.com>

"GoChords™" is an easy-to-use writing and playing tool with moveable chord tablature!"

Live 'Ukulele

Tabs, lessons, and info for 'ukulele enthusiasts

<http://liveukulele.com/>

<http://ukeattitude.blogspot.com/>

<http://twitter.com/ukeattitude>

<http://www.gotaukulele.com>

<http://ukulele-perspective.com>